

that his was an infectious personality touching all whom he met. His legendary sense of humor was a joy and a comfort, adeptly conveying his care, concern and passion for others and it was limitless in its reach into the heart, soul and mind of those who bore witness to this wonderful and selfless man. His love of family and friends formed an unbreakable bond which withstood and weathered all manner of life's success and challenges, those of his own and of his loved ones and friends. This pure and deep love influenced his pledge to each of them to love, support, help and guide them through life, to celebrate their achievements and embrace their challenges. He stood proudly by his family and gave his best so that each would achieve and in so doing, give unto others the best of themselves in service to mankind. He gave so much, yet every sacrifice was meant to empower those whom he loved and in so doing he gained immeasurably in pride, stature and humility. His service to and love of family was a willing sacrifice willingly undertaken and richly rewarded as evidenced by his unabridged pride in all of his family's accomplishments and their resultant service to their communities. Never at a loss for words was Leon, through his humor, his compassion, his leadership, his fierce and determined support and his sheer love of family. This was a man of genuine love and compassion, and in his passing, a true celebration of life was held to remember and hold in highest esteem this man, this father, this husband, this brother and this friend.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that you join me in honoring the life of a man who leaves behind a record of service that speaks volumes about his life.

HONORING MUHAMMAD ALI ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS 70TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Muhammad Ali on the occasion of his 70th birthday, being celebrated by the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Keep Memory Alive, and the Muhammad Ali Center at the 2012 Power of Love Gala as they all join together to help alleviate memory, brain and movement disorders.

As a boxer, Muhammad Ali is renowned as the first three-time Heavy Weight Champion of the World with 56 wins, 5 losses, and 37 knockouts. Leading up to his world championships, Mr. Ali won an Olympic Gold Medal, Golden Gloves, and an Amateur Athletic Union Championship. Among the hundreds of accolades, Mr. Ali has received over the years, he has been recognized by Sports Illustrated as "Sportsman of the Century," GQ Magazine as "Athlete of the Century," the BBC as "Sports Personality of the Century," and the World Sports Award for "World Sportsman of the Century."

More than 50 years after winning the Gold Medal at the 1960 Rome Olympics, Muhammad Ali remains an endearing figure of both strength and compassion, known and beloved throughout the world.

Internationally, championing the issues of the developing world has become a major focus of Muhammad's life. For this, he has received many awards and accolades, including Messenger of Peace by the United Nations 1998–2008 for his work with developing nations, Amnesty International's Lifetime Achievement Award, Germany's 2005 Otto Hahn Peace Medal for his involvement in the United Nations and the U.S. Civil Rights Movement, and he was named International Ambassador of Jubilee 2000, a global organization dedicated to relieving debt in developing nations. Muhammad has also been instrumental in providing over 232 million meals to the world's hungry.

In 2005, Muhammad Ali was presented with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our country's highest civilian award, for his life's work. Along with his charitable work around the globe, Muhammad has been dedicated to helping charities at home as well, including the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky, founded by Muhammad and his wife, Lonnie. The Muhammad Ali Center is a cultural and international education center that is inspired by his ideals. The Center serves as the global hub for championing the six prevailing core values of his life: respect, confidence, conviction, dedication, giving and spirituality. Much more than a place to tell the story of one man's incredible 70-year journey, the Muhammad Ali Center reaches beyond its physical walls to fulfill its mission—in 2012, the Center's activities will ensure that future generations understand and actively adopt Muhammad's core values to create a powerful new movement: Generation Ali.

In addition to his many philanthropic endeavors, Muhammad Ali is also celebrated for the awareness he has brought to Parkinson's disease through his own personal battle with the disease. His aim is to dramatically accelerate the understanding of Parkinson's disease and the pursuit of effective treatments.

As the Representative for Nevada's First Congressional district, it gives me immense pride to celebrate the 70th birthday of Muhammad Ali, the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Keep Memory Alive, and the Muhammad Ali Center, as they fight to put memory, brain and movement disorders down for a final 10-count.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I was absent from the House on Tuesday, February 14th, Wednesday, February 15th, and part of Thursday, February 16th due to a death in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall votes 49, 52–61, 63, 64, 65, 67, and 68, and I would have voted "no" on rollcall votes 50, 51, 62, 66, 69.

HONORING DR. PAUL STANTON

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and work of Dr. Paul Stanton, president of East Tennessee State University for the past fifteen years. Dr. Stanton first came to ETSU in 1985, as director of the Division of Peripheral Vascular Surgery for the Veterans Administration Medical Center and ETSU's James H. Quillen College of Medicine. Over the next twelve years he devoted himself to ETSU, and for his dedication and hard work, he was named president in 1997. Under Dr. Stanton's leadership, ETSU markedly increased its percentage of residential students, built two large new dorms, and celebrated its centennial anniversary. Under his stewardship Princeton Review has named ETSE as one of America's best value colleges, and one of the top schools in the Southeast. Speaking as a physician, his most important achievement may have been the construction and completion of the Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy. During Dr. Stanton's tenure, the Quillen College of Medicine has consistently been named as one of the top rural medical schools in the country, educating the next generation of physicians who more often than not stay and practice in East Tennessee, in addition to serving similar rural communities around the country.

Through his sound leadership, Dr. Stanton, has strengthened the foundation of an important educational institution in East Tennessee. My daughter Whitney is a proud alumna of this distinguished public university.

Along with providing transformative leadership for one of East Tennessee's most important academic institutions, Dr. Paul Stanton has long been a devoted and caring physician, family man, grandfather, teacher, scientist, mentor, true gentleman and a fellow Methodist. Throughout it all his beautiful and terrific wife Nancy has supported him and undertaken a great deal of community involvement herself. Though I know he will miss ETSU, I am sure Dr. Stanton will find a way to keep himself busy between golf, grandchildren, and continued service to the community.

I thank Dr. Stanton for his service and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 50, Wednesday afternoon, I was participating in an important subcommittee meeting and was unable to make the first vote of the series. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PASSING OF NEW YORK TIMES
CORRESPONDENT ANTHONY
SHADID

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Anthony Shadid, a New York Times correspondent who died yesterday while reporting from Syria.

As a foreign correspondent for many different papers over the years, Anthony informed our world view, gave us insights no other journalist could, and bore witness to history being made in the Middle East.

We learned of world events from his dispatches from the other side of the globe—from the fall of Sadaam Hussein, to the Arab Spring, and most recently the turmoil rankling Syria and Libya. There were always other stories, but his were the gold standard.

But what I admired most about Anthony Shadid was his persistence, even in the face of mortal peril. He exemplified what a free press should strive to be. During his assignments in the Middle East, Anthony was shot, harassed, hounded, arrested . . . abused. But those acts of violence could not deter him, and he continued to report on the events shaping our world.

Jill Abramson, the Executive Director of the New York Times, put it best—“his empathy for its citizens’ struggles and his deep understanding of their culture and history set his writing apart. He was their poet and their champion.”

Anthony’s intrepid spirit and story-telling ability is irreplaceable, and will live on. My heart goes out to his wife, son and daughter, and parents.

U.S. COAST GUARD PORT SECURITY UNIT 307 HONORED WITH
2011 DOD RESERVE FAMILY
READINESS AWARD

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the men and women of U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit 307 who are being honored this morning at the Pentagon with the 2011 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award.

This award recognizes that the readiness of our military units to deploy anywhere in the world is only as good as the support they receive from and the support they provide to the families they leave behind. Port Security Unit 307, from Clearwater, Florida which I proudly represent, has excelled at taking care of its families. Commissioned in May 1999, Port Security Unit 307 knows the meaning of readiness. They are charged with being ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 96 hours and they are the only Port Security Unit to meet this standard in the international arena.

They also know about deployments as they have been deployed repeatedly to help secure

our domestic ports following 9–11, to support the ports we operate from abroad, and even to provide port security operations for humanitarian operations such as those in Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010. In fact, Port Security Unit 307, under the leadership of its commanding officer Commander James Wallace, just returned last month from a six-month deployment to the Middle East in support of Operations New Dawn and Enduring Freedom. There they provided security for port locations around the North Arabian Gulf to ensure the free flow of personnel, equipment and commerce in the region. The unit worked side-by-side with the Navy and its Maritime Expeditionary Squadron Three to provide strategic support in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

It takes months of training and preparation for a unit to ready itself for a deployment of this magnitude. Most important though to Commander Wallace and his unit is the preparation they provide to ready the families for their deployment. Port Security Unit 307 has been a key participant in the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. This is a Department of Defense-wide effort to help the members of National Guard and Reserve units and their families to locate resources available to them and their families before, during and after deployments. In addition to these services, the families of Port Security Unit 307 also participated in a mid-deployment Yellow Ribbon event to assist families.

The unit’s leadership stayed in touch with the families throughout the deployment by producing regular newsletters outlining its missions and responsibilities. They also host an annual Family Day and Open House each summer so the families can interact with each other. Commander Wallace says the most important part of that weekend is the opportunity for him and his leaders to say thank you to the families and their friends for the invaluable support they provide their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, we can never fully repay the men and women who serve our nation in uniform and the families they leave behind as they go into harm’s way. We can, however, salute the units that have excelled at taking care of their loved ones during their deployments and no unit does it better than U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit 307. I commend their record of service to my colleagues here in the House and I hope you will join me in saying thank you to each one of them for a job well done.

RINGHAUSEN FAMILY WINS 23RD
ANNUAL ILLINOIS CIDER AND
NATIONAL CIDER CONTEST

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Joe Ringhausen Orchard and Apple House of Fieldon, Illinois in winning the 23rd Annual Illinois Cider and National Cider Contests on January 12–13, 2012. Joe and his wife Sina, along with son Dennis and other family members, exemplify excellence in their business and contribute to the

overall economic success of their community. The orchard makes between 500 and 700 gallons per week during peak season. The Ringhausen Orchard is well known for their award-winning ciders. Joe’s experience in cider-making spans forty years.

It should be noted that the judges conducted blind evaluations to eliminate bias and the Ringhausen Orchard beat out other ciders from apple-producing states like Michigan and Washington.

I want to also thank the Illinois State Horticultural Society for sponsoring the event in conjunction with Illinois Specialty Crop, Agritourism and Organic Conference, Illinois Department of Agriculture, and the University of Illinois Extension Service. Each provides an invaluable service to farmers in Illinois for guidance, resources, and a clearinghouse of information.

I want to congratulate the Ringhausen family and join the Illinois House members in wishing them continued success at their orchard.

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Ringhausen, who has been making cider for approximately 40 years, has won awards before but never the “triple crown” of Illinois cider.

National awards are open to all U.S. producers, and Illinois awards are open to all Illinois producers. “I’m so surprised by this,” he said.

Ringhausen’s son, Dennis, was in Springfield to accept the awards on behalf of the orchard. The Ringhausen cider beat out about 25 other varieties to win the Illinois title and growers from both Washington and Michigan to win the national title.

The orchard entered its signature sweet cider, which is blended from equal amounts of tart apples, such as Jonathans, and sweet apples, like Fujis.

The sweet cider is a mainstay at the Apple House from September until Christmas time, routinely selling out by the first of the year.

“I think we’ll put the trophies and plaques in the market,” said Ringhausen, whose family purchased the extensive orchards in 1929.

Unlike sweet cider, hard cider has an alcoholic content; sugar is added to the sweet cider to initiate fermentation. Joe’s wife, Sina, supervises this process. They don’t have a license to sell the hard cider, so they gift it to family and friends for their personal enjoyment.

The annual Hard Cider Contest, in its 10th year, awards points based on characteristics including clarity, color, bouquet, balance of alcohol, acidity, sweetness, body and flavor, among other criteria. Judges evaluated the entries using a 25-point rating scale for cider quality characteristics, awarding the top scores to Ringhausen’s entries.

The Illinois State Horticultural Society sponsors the event in conjunction with the Illinois Specialty Crops, Agritourism and Organic Conference held in Springfield.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture and the University of Illinois Extension Service also participate. Edwardsville Extension Center Specialist Elizabeth Wahle served as cider contest coordinator. The Illinois State Horticultural Society was formed in 1857 for the purpose of representing fruit tree producers, sharing research findings and promoting the industry to consumers. The Society is one of the oldest continuously operating membership organizations in the state of Illinois.